

VERMONT TECH

HEALTH & SAFETY

Preparing students for medical and emergency careers in Vermont

Vermont Tech's
New Frontier
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When Dan Smith left Vermont Tech to become Executive Director of the Vermont Community Foundation, VSC Chancellor Jeb Spaulding appointed Pat Moulton as Interim President, and the Board of Trustees began the search for the next permanent leader of Vermont Tech. Pat arrived with years of experience in Workforce Development and had built a strong record working with businesses throughout the state. Thrown into the mix just days before Homecoming 2016, Pat hit the ground running and made it clear, through conversation and action, that she wanted to be considered for the permanent position.

In the spring semester of 2017, the Presidential Search Committee and Board of Trustees had 47 candidates for the position from 17 states and abroad. One of six women in the pool, Pat was advanced with two other finalists who met with students, faculty, and staff. She was ultimately chosen as the next President of Vermont Tech.

Chancellor Spaulding said that Pat "... is a gifted leader and administrator and fully devoted to providing the best student experience possible."

Morgan Easton, Vermont Tech engineering technology student and the Board of Trustees student member who served on the presidential search committee, said, "I couldn't be more excited ... her enthusiasm and passion for the college and the state are contagious."

Much of the faculty and staff feel the same hopeful excitement at Pat's appointment – she has built a strong following over the previous year, and shown herself to be a committed leader.

AFTER 150 YEARS VERMONT TECH HAS A FEMALE PRESIDENT

Small college.
Big outcomes.

A native Vermonter, Pat is a graduate of UVM and has spent years in economic development at the regional and state levels. Most recently the Secretary of the Vermont Agency of Commerce and Community Development, Pat was also Commissioner of the Vermont Department of Labor, Executive Director of the Brattleboro Development Credit Corporation, and Vice President of Government Affairs for the Vermont Chamber of Commerce. Pat knows business, and brings with her many strong relationships within Vermont's manufacturing, agricultural, financial, government, and commerce organizations.

Pat waited until the President's job was officially and permanently hers before moving into the President's House on campus this summer, which she now shares with her partner, Jim, Max the dog, and Joe the cat.

Welcome Pat Moulton, 15th President of Vermont Tech!



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Learn what your classmates have been up to



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Treasurer: Susan Fredette, BU '95
Secretary: Sidney McLam, AB '77 & TO '86

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

In September, I had the privilege to preside over my second Homecoming here at Vermont Tech and I had the chance to meet many more of you wonderful alumni. As I travel throughout Vermont, it seems that every event I attend, every manufacturing business I visit, and almost any meeting I am in, I always meet Vermont Tech graduates. I am continually impressed by how successful you are, and how much you make up the fabric of our state. I want to meet more of you and learn more about what you all do.

I have asked our Alumni Affairs, Development, and Marketing departments to get the word out to you on a more regular basis to let you know what is going on at the college, with the faculty and staff, and with all of you folks. So we are going to send this alumni magazine out twice a year – once in the summer after Commencement, and once at the end of the calendar year, to feature Homecoming. We will also be sending email newsletters about once a month, to let you know of some of the more immediate successes and events. If you want to receive those, please make sure we have your current email address by signing on to our website alumni pages — vtc.edu/alumni — and submitting your contact information. And please continue to share your news with us by going to Class Notes on the Alumni site.

Finally, I would like your help creating a name for this alumni magazine of ours. Go to vtc.edu/alumni and vote for your choice, so we can have a name for the Summer Issue. I have a favorite, but I am not telling you what it is — I really want to know what you all think. Enjoy the news from your Vermont Tech, find out what your friends and classmates are doing in Class Notes, and keep sharing your stories with us!

Small college. Big outcomes. Vermont Tech!

Pat Moulton
President

VERMONT TECH

Vermont Tech is known for providing a practical, personal, and supportive education that helps students achieve their dreams. Our Allied Health and Safety programs exemplify that model.

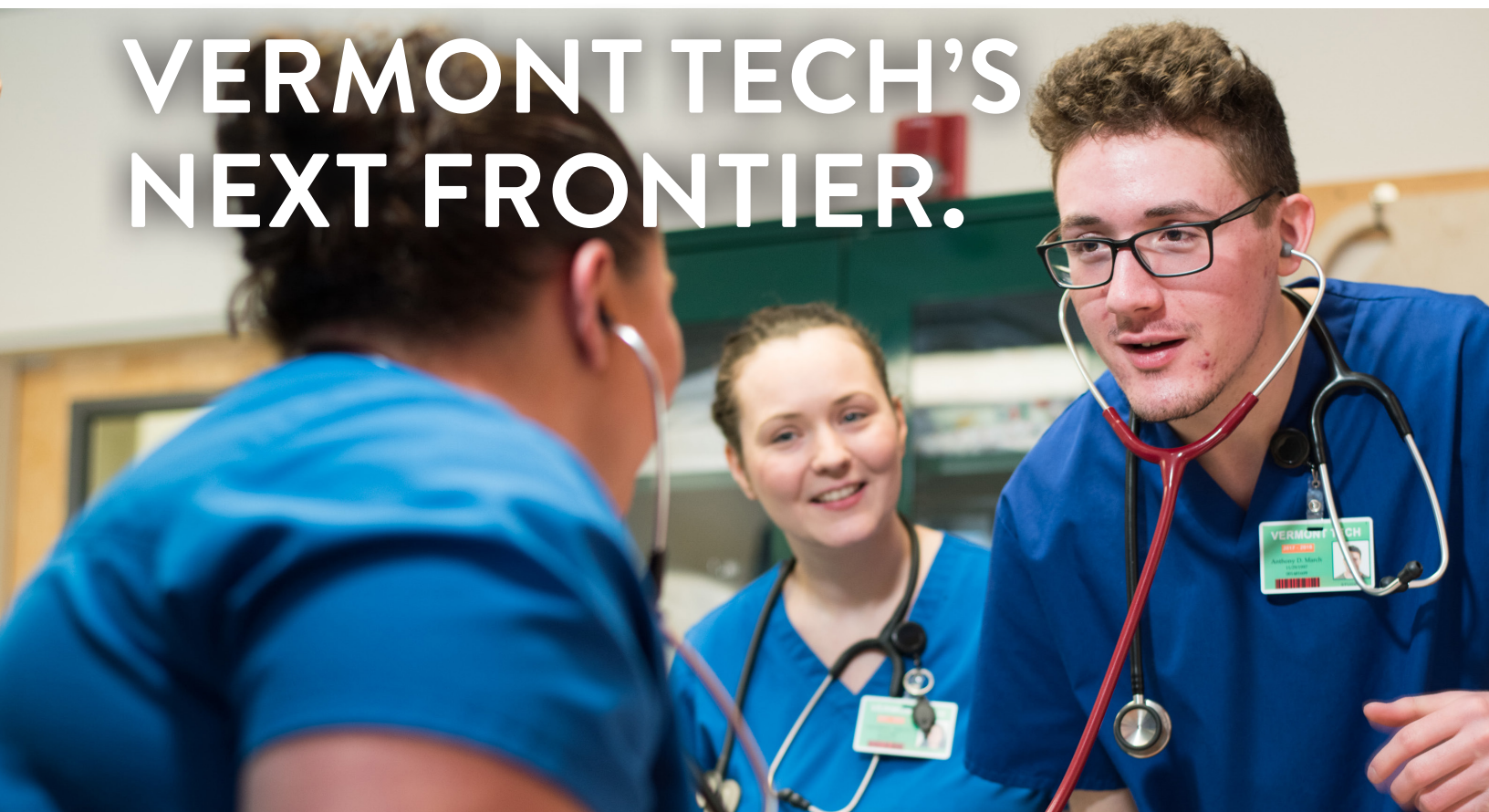
In 1994, we banded together with state-wide health education centers to create our Satellite Nursing sites. Since then, we have added five more Health and Safety programs to our curriculum. In 2004, Vermont Tech took over Champlain College's Respiratory Therapy program; Dental Hygiene was added around the same time; we added Fire Science to the Randolph Center campus in 2005, and the Paramedicine certificate was added in 2015. Our newest Allied Health program is Dental Therapy, which is currently under the accreditation process. Read more about it on page 7.

Our Allied Health and Safety programs are a blend of technical and human aspects. Professors enhance the "real world" application of their lessons by involving emotion and compassion in the practical experience. For example, in our Nursing simulation labs, students attempt to diagnose and treat simulated ailments on an animatronic patient voiced by a professor or lab tech. They must maintain a professional demeanor and good bedside manners, no matter how belligerent or difficult the patient may get.

Nursing and Respiratory Therapy students participate in Clinicals, a chance for them to get into the hospital environment and work directly with actual patients, doctors, and technicians. Paramedicine students are required to complete a semester-long field experience, riding along with certified paramedics and EMTs. In our Fire Science program, future firefighters practice drills and fire suppression on our Beck fire engine and three-story burn building. Dental Hygiene students get extensive practice with

HEALTH & SAFETY PROGRAMMING

VERMONT TECH'S NEXT FRONTIER.



cleaning and patient education in our fully equipped hygienist offices in Williston and the Molar Mobile ambulatory lab.

Health and Safety are the foundations of human need. We at Vermont Tech are proud to offer these fine programs that produce such successful and hard-working graduates. If you are a graduate of any of our Allied Health or Fire Science programs, we appreciate your dedication to continued excellence.

MOBILE SIM LAB

One of the great features of our Nursing, Respiratory Therapy, and Paramedicine programs is the Human Simulators — the “patients” that sweat, bleed, and go into cardiac arrest five times every morning. These articulated mannequins simulate many of the functions, symptoms, and maladies of the human body, and provide our Allied Health students with the opportunity to test their training in life-and-death situations, without actually risking a life.

Students enter the simulator — furnished and equipped to look just like a hospital room — to speak with and examine the patient in the bed, take his pulse, listen to his breathing, intubate him, administer intravenous medicines, and perform CPR. They are observed and evaluated by instructors behind one-way glass. The instructors, like Michelle Stearns, program the wireless Human Simulator to show symptoms and react to treatment, voice the patient, and can even measure the depth of the students’ attempts at chest compression. This is an

example of the hands-on, applied learning that makes Vermont Tech so successful.

Many small hospitals and regional clinics in the state seek this high-tech training for current staff, but Human Simulators are expensive — sometimes \$50,000 to \$100,000 when combined with maintenance, warranty, and training of instructor technicians. Many small facilities — and even some remote campuses — do not have space to devote to training or even storage of the simulator and equipment.

So, Vermont Tech is initiating the Mobile Simulator Lab — a van and dedicated Human Simulator with all of the necessary equipment — to travel anywhere in the state to set up and provide lab instruction. Some funds have been raised via a gift from the Hoehl Family Foundation, but more is sought. We should be able to purchase the van and EMT-style stretcher soon, and will use an existing simulator until one can be purchased specifically for the MoSimLab. That one would be a female simulator — named Lucina — which will provide OB/GYN instruction to students, and can even go into labor and deliver a baby, with an umbilical cord that can be clamped and cut. This specific training is rare in Vermont, and highly sought after by regional facilities.

Mobile Technical Instruction is another innovation setting your Vermont Tech apart in the collegiate world, providing our students with the skills to make them more valuable employees, and making your college, and our state, stronger.





FACULTY PROFILE

CINDY MARTINDILL, EdD, MSN, RN, CNE

Associate Dean of Nursing
(Retired)

Cindy Martindill began at Vermont Tech in 2009 as the Site Director for the Northeast Kingdom campus, and ultimately rose to the position of Associate Dean of Nursing, overseeing all of Vermont Tech's nursing sites and programs. Cindy received her Bachelor's of Science in Nursing from Case Western University, two Master's Degrees — MSN from Houston Baptist University and MEd from University of Houston — and her Doctor of Education from Plymouth State.

During her tenure at Vermont Tech, Cindy has seen the Nursing Department grow to include twelve locations around the state, a major re-organization of the Nursing Department administration, and the addition of the BSN — a Bachelor of Science in Nursing. This online degree completion program enables Vermont Tech graduates of the ADN (Associate Degree in Nursing) program to earn their bachelor's degree

while working in a health care facility and gaining real-life experience. "I think it really helps complete our career-level approach to nursing education," says Cindy, "because we offer the opportunity for our students to increase their earning power as they increase their certificate and degree level of education."

Cindy retired in June of this year, with plans to travel The Great Northern Route with her husband. They will drive Route 2 across the country — they have already gone from the Maine coast to their home in Lancaster, New Hampshire — now looking forward to continuing on to Seattle.

When asked what Cindy was most proud of during her time at Vermont Tech, she says it was getting accreditation for all of the nursing programs. "That was by far the hardest task, but definitely the most worthwhile."



ALUMNI PROFILE

PATRICIA DUDLEY, BSN '16

Patricia Dudley was named the Regional Director of Nursing for the Department of Corrections earlier this year. Congratulations, Patricia!

One of the things Patricia loves most about nursing is the endless opportunity for lifelong learning.

Patricia says, "I have learned that nursing is about accepting people for who they are and trying to help them achieve their potential. As a new nursing student, you want to 'fix' everyone. But as a seasoned nursing student, you realize that appliances can be 'fixed,' and people cannot. People can only be encouraged."

A lifetime resident of the Northeast Kingdom, Patricia graduated from high school and decided that nursing was the right career for her. She enrolled in Allied Health courses at Community

College of Vermont. Her advisor at CCV suggested that she explore earning her degree at Vermont Tech. The Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) is a degree completion program for nurses with associate degrees. Once Patricia learned about the BSN program's successful graduation rate and that there was a campus in nearby Newport, she was sold. She was a part of the class that saw a 100% placement rate.

Patricia says she is proud to be a nurse.

"It has helped me be a better mother, a better wife, and a better person. I think that I get as much out of caring for my patients as they do. That feeling is tough to beat!"

Read more about Patricia and other alumni by going to vtc.edu/alumnistories



FACULTY PROFILE

CHEYANNE WARREN, MS, DDS

Director, Dental Therapy

Welcome Cheyanne Warren, the Director of Vermont Tech's newest program: Dental Therapy. Cheyanne describes Dental Therapy as the Physician's Assistant of dentistry; Dental Therapists have more skills and freedoms than a Dental Hygienist, but do not have as much responsibility as a Dentist. To become a Dental Therapist, you first need to have a degree in Dental Hygiene, offered as a bachelor's program at Vermont Tech. The Dental Therapy program we're creating is one-of-a-kind. In our 4-year program, students will get an Associate in Dental Hygiene, then a Bachelor of Science in Oral Health Science, and finally a Master's in Dental Therapy. That's three degrees in just four years!

Cheyanne was born in Addison County and attended dental school in Virginia, where she also completed her Master's in Biochemistry. She returned to Vermont and practiced Dentistry at the Plainfield Community Health Center, a nonprofit that sees a large percentage of patients with Medicare.



ALUMNI PROFILE

SADIE CONROY, DHY '17

In high school, Sadie Conroy got a jump-start on her college career. While growing up in Bloomfield, Vermont, her high school had a partnership with a local community college, giving her the opportunity to take college courses before graduating.

That prepared her well for a college career. Not only did she earn 27 college credits, all of which were transferrable to Vermont Tech, but it also gave her an understanding of college-level academics and expectations.

Sadie chose Vermont Tech because of the small campus, beautiful location, top-notch curriculum, and excellent reputation for Dental Hygiene.

"Looking for colleges was a struggle because of the limited options for Dental Hygiene programs

Dental Therapy has been a worldwide profession for decades. It was originally designed to improve access to dental care in areas that were too remote, or could not afford a dentist. Dental Therapy is relatively new to the United States; currently only three states recognize it as a profession; Maine, Minnesota, and, as of June, 2016, Vermont. Vermont Tech was the obvious choice to host the new program because of the existing Allied Health programs currently offered.

Cheyanne's job now is to facilitate the new program as it goes through several accreditation processes, after which she will add teaching to her role.

As dentistry becomes more expensive to practice, Cheyanne hopes that more Dental Hygienists will make the leap into roles as dental therapists. She is also excited to have Dental Therapy students use the Molar Mobile alongside our Dental Hygienists to practice on patients outside of the office.

in New England," she says. "A number of schools required a first year of liberal arts studies or the route of a dental assistant. I had applied to other colleges but was extremely pleased to be accepted directly into the Dental Hygiene program in my home state at Vermont Tech."

She has excelled thanks to hands-on learning opportunities in the Dental Hygiene clinic and support from faculty.

"The faculty has helped me tremendously with my studies along with providing additional learning opportunities to enhance my education and interest for the dental hygiene field," she says. "My college career path has been amazing."

Sadie is now a Dental Hygienist at St. Johnsbury Dental Associates. **vtc**



VERMONT TECH



Vermont Tech alumni shared the Montague Golf Course on Friday with faculty, staff, and regional business people in the 3rd Annual Knights Scramble.

On Saturday, alumni and their families filled Judd Hall for fellowship, reminiscing, an Alumni Association meeting, and a traditional turkey dinner. Vermont Tech alumni from classes spanning 75 years were in attendance— with some here fresh from this spring's graduation to Richard Moore from the VSA class

HOMECOM

Two days of beautiful Vermont fall weather set the stage for Homecoming 2017.

of 1942. Richard was joined by his wife, daughters, and granddaughter, Amanda, who is currently enrolled in the Vermont Tech Vet Tech Program.



Some folks played in the alumni soccer game, some stayed for the varsity games, and the evening finished with live music and dancing in the Campus Center.

Look for changes to next year's Homecoming, but not to worry: we'll still serve turkey for dinner! **vtc**

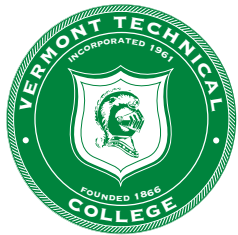


2017

WING

SEPTEMBER 22 & 23





ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Alan Curler takes the reins from Susan Fredette to become your new Alumni Association president.



This October, Alan's professional efforts and dedication were recognized with the Honorary American Future Farmers of America (FFA) Degree, receiving the award at the 2017 National FFA Convention & Expo in Indianapolis.

"This award is given to those who advance agricultural education and FFA through outstanding personal commitment. The National FFA Organization works to enhance the lives of youth through agricultural education. Without the efforts of highly dedicated individuals, thousands of young people would not be able to achieve success that, in turn, contributes directly to the overall well-being of the nation."

Vermont Economic Development Agency.

A 1970 graduate of Vermont Tech's Agriculture Program, Alan is an Agricultural Loan Officer at the Vermont Agricultural Credit Corporation (VACC). He lives in New Haven, Vermont with Betsey, his wife of 41 years. Alan is a regular Homecoming attendee and Knights Scramble player. You may have seen him handing out tickets for the Alumni Cruise on Lake Champlain in June.

Keep up the great work, Alan, and congratulations on the award!

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President: Alan Curler, AG '70
Treasurer: Susan Fredette, BU '95
Secretary: Sidney McLam, AB '77 & TO '86



BE A PART OF YOUR ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Do you want to travel the world? Party with celebrities? Dine with heads of state? Well, you won't do any of that on the Vermont Tech Alumni Association, but you can have an impact on your college and help to keep your fellow alumni better connected to Vermont Tech. Meetings are once per quarter in the Allen House Conference Room, and usually include a delicious pot luck dinner (that's the dining with heads of state part).

Please consider participating in the association and joining the meetings, either in person or by phone. We want your input! Call Dwight Cross at (802) 728-1250 with any questions or email your interest to alumni@vtc.edu.



On a beautiful weekend in May, shaded from the sun on the front lawn of the President's House, Vermont Tech graduated 507 students from 47 programs in its 151st Annual Commencement ceremony.

20
17

Saturday's Commencement Speaker had an intimate knowledge of the college, having graduated with an Associate Degree in Mechanical Engineering Technology from VTC in 1977. Dennis Grimard set a strong example for the new graduates by showing them where a Vermont Tech degree could lead as he now holds a PhD in electrical engineering and is

employed as the Operations Manager for the MIT Nanotechnology Lab in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Dennis began his speech by asking President Moulton's permission to alter his regalia, whereby he exchanged his doctoral tam for a John Deere ball cap in homage to the agriculture graduates under the tent and those who went to school with him. An innovator with over 30 patents to his name, Dennis inspired the graduates with personal stories of perseverance and ingenuity.

On Sunday, it was the Allied Health students' turn. In equally blue skies and moderate temperatures, their ceremony included the reciting of the various oaths for dental hygiene, respiratory therapy, nursing, and paramedicine care in front of the overflow crowd of family and friends spilling out of the tent. **vtc**

CLASS NOTES

STEPHEN SPACE '59, of East Dummerston passed away in May of this year at the Pine Heights Nursing Home in Brattleboro. Known as "Tiny" because of his small size during high school, the nickname stuck even after he reached a height of six-foot-four in college. Never married, Steve was a devoted family man to his brother and nieces & nephews. He worked for American Optical for 21 years, then at local banks. A talented mechanic, Steve was an avid hunter and fisherman.

NICHOLAS ASTBURY '62, lost Teresa, his wife and soulmate of 39 years, just short of her 87th birthday this year while they were summering in Vermont. Nick and Teresa ran the Rumbleseat Rathskeller Restaurant in Woodstock for several years before moving to Virginia in 1993, and finally to Florida in 2004, where they continued their love of gardening to sell vegetables at their farm stand.

DOMINIQUE ST. PIERRE '64, retired 10 years ago after 43 years in the Aviation and Aerospace industry. He and his wife Janie live in Central Florida, spending their summers in Vermont. The last three of their six grandchildren are now in college attending Clarkson, Washington & Lee, and Mount Ida.

ALAN CURLER '70, received an Honorary American Future Farmers of America Degree (see page 10).

DOUG CONN '72, began studying Electrical Engineering at Wentworth College in 1967, then was drafted in 1968. Upon his return home from Vietnam in 1970, he switched to Vermont Tech and Civil Engineering Technology on the GI Bill. When his daughter, Rachel, earned her Master's Degree in CE, he presented her with his original slide rule, framed and labeled "No Power, No Problem – In Case of Emergency, Break Glass" which she keeps in her office. Rachel is President-Elect of the American Society of Engineers (ASCE), Florida Section. "VTC was very good for me, both while I was in school and the education was a great asset to my life," says Doug. He started his own construction company in 1978 and built over 700 homes before retiring to Florida because, "I don't want to slip on any ice." Doug is pictured here with his granddaughters Ginny, Lily, and Hailey.



TIM HAZEN '72, moved with his wife, Janet, to Savannah, Georgia 11 years ago, where he works in Sales for Home Depot. In addition to gardening and generally getting his hands dirty, Tim has been in the Rhodesian Ridgeback show dog business for a few years now.

DENNIS GRIMARD '77, is now Operation Manager for the new MIT Nanotechnology Lab in Cambridge, Massachusetts (see page 11).

ALAN DAVENPORT '78, passed away in August this year. He leaves behind his wife, Christine (VO '79), and daughters, Amy and Jenny. Amy is in her clinical year of veterinary school and Jenny, also a Vermont Tech alumna in Dairy and Vet, who now lives with her husband, Andrew, a Vermont Tech firefighter graduate, in Portsmouth, NH. Alan and his family were dairy farmers until 2010 when they sold the cows and continued raising sheep for Easter lambs. Alan continued to farm until his death. He also worked part-time at Home Depot; he was a "people" person and everyone loved him there. "Alan enjoyed his time at VTC and always talked about it. He will be missed by many, but VTC always held a special place in his heart with all his friends."



CHRIS RONDEAU '89, was promoted to Principal Engineer for T55 Engines at Honeywell International Aftermarket Services in Greer, South Carolina. Honeywell is the leading supplier



of Engines for CH-47 Chinook Helicopters for the US Army and militaries around the world. Chris has been with Honeywell AMS for 13 years.



Do you have news to share?

We want to hear from you for the Summer issue. Go to the vtc.edu/alumni page and click on Class Notes, or email your story and photos to alumni@vtc.edu.

JAMES FOSTER '90, died as the result of a farming accident on September 21, 2017. He was a graduate of Middlebury Union High School and received his associate degree in Agriculture Business Management from Vermont Tech in 1990 before continuing on to Kansas State University where he received a BS in Animal Science in 1992. He married Tricia Eastwood on October 9, 1993. Foster was an owner of Vermont Natural Ag Products and Foster Brothers Farm in Middlebury. He was a dedicated husband and father whose values of integrity guided him each day. He was a humble and kind leader on the Addison County Fair and Field Days board, the Vermont FFA Foundation, and the Central Cemetery Association.

PENNY WILLIAMS '93, of Perkinsville, Vermont started her own business as an independent contractor for Veterinary Technology, after 26 years in the small animal hospital business.

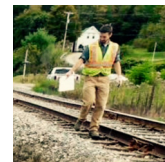
MARK MOYER '96, was promoted to Construction Quality Assurance Manager at Weaver Consultants Group in Grand Rapids, Michigan.



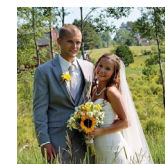
Mark lives in Grand Rapids with his wife of 11 years, Lynette, who holds a master's degree from Michigan State and teaches elementary school.

MICHAEL CHARRON '04, of Bunker Hill, West Virginia is a Senior Project Engineer for William H. Gordon Associates, where he works on residential, commercial, and government projects. "My firm was recently awarded a multi-year contract with the US Veterans Administration to complete civil engineering designs for multiple National Cemeteries throughout the US. The contracts are worth millions of dollars and we are proud and excited to work with the Department of Veterans Affairs."

KYLE WELLS '13, is now a Project Manager for the newly-created Rail & Aviation Bureau for the Vermont Agency of Transportation. In addition to his previous railroad work overseeing bridge replacements, crossing upgrades, and storm damage assessments, Kyle will be adding airports to his purview, managing runway expansions, taxiway construction, fencing, and more. "I first graduated with my Associate of Engineering in Civil and Environmental Engineering Technology in 2011. I decided to stay and expand and my education following the Green Site Design track, and graduated from the Sustainable Design and Technology program in 2013."



KELSI DESPINS '14, and **BRIGHAM REESE '14** were married on June 25, 2016.



KEVIN KEHOE '14, was hired by Albany Medical Center as a Respiratory Therapist after graduation, advancing quickly to the PICU and Transport teams. In 2015 he moved to the Center for Donation and Transplant as an Organ Donation Coordinator for two years, and was recently hired in the same position at the UVM Medical Center. "In these three years, I have gotten engaged, adopted a rescue dog named Greta, and bought a house! I thank Vermont Technical College for giving me the tools and resources to succeed!" **vtc**

Vermont Tech Alumni Boat Cruise

The **Vermont Tech Alumni Boat Cruise** was a big success this year! Thanks to Alan Curler '70 for setting it up again and getting about 100 alumni, faculty, staff, and friends on board the Spirit of Ethan Allen for an evening cruise of Lake Champlain, a fine dinner, and dancing!



VERMONT TECH at a glance

TOTAL ENROLLMENT

1,623

COUNTRIES
REPRESENTED
IN STUDENT
BODY

22

VARSAITY SPORT TEAMS

6



CAMPUS SKIING & SNOWBOARDING

VERMONT TECH HILL

at Randolph Center Campus

4TH

LOWEST
DEBT

5TH

HIGHEST
SALARY

Vermont 2017, College Scorecard
US Department of Education



#19

REGIONAL COLLEGES
(NORTH)

#10

TOP PUBLIC SCHOOL
(NORTH)

#13

BEST COLLEGE FOR
VETERANS



#11

BEST BET
FOR VETS



RESIDENTIAL CAMPUSES

TWO



STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS & CLUBS

52

LARGEST MAJOR

NURSING

98%

JOB PLACEMENT RATE ACROSS ALL MAJORS

Work in their fields 99%

Higher salary than national avg. 76%

Pursuing advanced education 38%

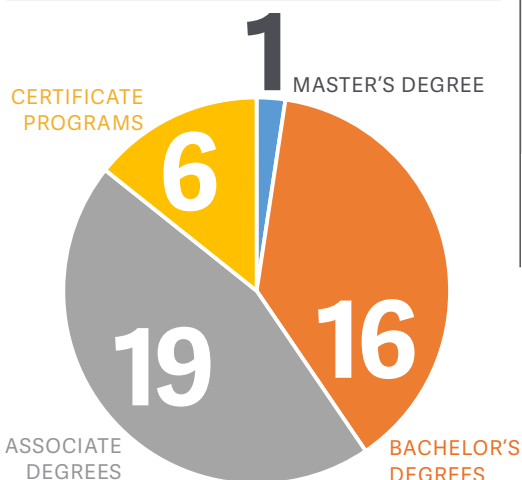
CAMPUSES & EXTENDED SITES

TEN

Bennington
Brattleboro
Lyndon
Middlebury
Newport
Randolph Center
Springfield
St. Albans
White River Jct.
Williston

16

AVERAGE CLASS SIZE



PARAMEDICINE



Paramedicine is a certificate program offered on our Williston and Bennington campuses. Paramedics are more mobile than doctors, and usually better trained than EMTs. Directed by Inge Smith-Luce, Vermont Tech has offered Paramedicine since 2015. Students take three semesters of practical instruction and then complete a cumulative field internship. They learn cardiology, trauma, how to manage airways during transport, and patient relations. To truly understand the concepts taught in the classroom, students apply their newfound knowledge in a field experience once a semester. During the 36 hours of field experience the student will ride with a Paramedicine Preceptor to observe and participate in patient care, getting more involved as their knowledge grows. After completion of this program, students are eligible to sit for the National Registry of EMTs Paramedic Examination.

FIRE SCIENCE

Fire departments in Vermont are tragically understaffed; when there is an emergency, they rely on the quick action of Volunteer Firefighters from all over the state. The associate-level Fire Science program at Vermont Tech wants to change that. Now, more than ever, employers are looking for graduates with post-secondary degrees and many Vermont fire departments require at least an associate degree to join the force as a paid firefighter. With a state-of-the-art burn building used for training, students gain critical hands-on experience in a variety of scenarios. Our Beck fire engine, which holds a 750-gallon water tank and seats six in an enclosed cab, is used to train students in the practical application of firefighting, putting classroom theories about hydraulics, strategy, and tactics into practice. Our program prepares students for the CPAT and certification in both firefighting and emergency medicine. Alex Northern, Fire Science Program Director, is a seasoned firefighter who has worked with a number of departments. His favorite motto is "Set the bar high and students will rise to it!"



RESPIRATORY THERAPY



Respiratory Therapists deliver care that helps people manage a wide range of breathing problems caused by disease, accident, or illness. Whenever and wherever breathing is an issue, Respiratory Therapists are there to provide care. Our Respiratory Therapy program has a 100% placement rate for the class of 2016, and our graduates practice all over the country. This associate degree comes with a 3-year option to accommodate working health professionals. Faye Tolar, Program Director, is a member of the American Association for Respiratory Care and the Vermont/New Hampshire Society for Respiratory Care. As an educator, Faye enjoys most being able to help students understand the concepts behind the delivery of respiratory care. Because of the high-tech nature of the program, this field is attractive to people from all backgrounds.



Throwback Photo Contest

Can you tell us where the library was located in this photo and in what year this photo was taken? Email your answers/guesses to alumni@vtc.edu for a chance to win a Vermont Tech hat. Multiple correct answers will be eligible for a random drawing.